

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 AID-05 /121 W
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R 240905Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 779
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANTANANARIVO 1389

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PORG, MA, FR
SUBJ: FURTHER COMMENTS ON RATSIRAKA'S OAU SPEECH

REF: ANT 1378 NOTAL

1. FOLLOWING REMARKS ARE ELICITED BY APPEARANCE OF FULL TEXT
OF RATSIRAKA'S SPEECH IN LOCAL MEDIA.

2. THEORETICAL LANGUAGE IN SPEECH CONTAINS GREAT DEAL OF
VINTAGE MARXISM APPLIED TO INTERNATIONAL SCENE: "INEVITABI-
LITY OF WORLD REVOLUTION", "CONTRADICTIONS OF CAPITALISM
AND IMPERIALISM", "ULTIMATE EPISODE OF CLASS WARFARE", ETC.

3. DENUNCIATIONS OF U.S. ACTIONS IN PAST ARE EXPLICIT AND
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EXTREME: U.S. INTERVENTION IN CONGO IN 1964 WAS PRECEDENT
FOR SUBSEQUENT INTERVENTIONS IN DOMINICAL REPUBLIC, SOUTH-
EAST ASIA, AND ELSEWHERE. FAILURE OF INTERVENTIONS IN
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA LED U.S. TO USE SUMMIT MEETINGS OF
1974, 1976, AND 1978 TO REDISTRIBUTE TASKS AMONG THE
EUROPEAN POWERS, PARTICULARLY "ONE EUROPEAN POWER",
AND TO LEAVE THEM RESPONSIBILITY OF INTERVENING IN

AFRICA, LEBANON, ETC.

4. ALTHOUGH RATSIRAKA DOES NOT USE THE WORDS FRANCE OR FRENCH, HE IS ROUGHER ON THE FRENCH THAN USUAL, AS IN HIS OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO FRANCE AS THE "PARTICULAR EUROPEAN POWER" TO WHICH JOB OF INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION HAS BEEN DELEGATED BY U.S. HE ALSO EQUATES MAYOTTE AND REUNION WITH DIEGO GARCIA AS MILITARY BASES AND DENOUNCES PRESENCE OF "4,500 MILITARY FROM THREE BRANCHES OF SERVICE" IN REUNION AS SOURCE OF PREOCCUPATION FOR "ALL OF US". ON FUTURE OF REUNION HE CITES IT AS A PROBLEM OF DECOLONIZATION BUT THEN REASSERTS TRADITIONAL MALAGASY POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR AUTODETERMINATION.

5. FULL TEXT OF SPEECH MAKES CLEAR THAT RATSIRAKA DID NOT HIMSELF DENOUNCE MOROCCO'S "IMPERIAL PRETENSIONS" BUT WAS REFERRING TO PREVIOUS MAURITANIAN ACCUSATIONS AGAINST MOROCCO, REMARKING ON STRANGENESS OF PRESENT TEAMWORK OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES AGAINST SAHROUI.

6. RATSIRAKA RETURNED TO MADAGASCAR ON JULY 23 AND HIS ARRIVAL REMARKS TO PRESS GENERALLY REPEATED THEMES OF HIS OAU SPEECH. HOWEVER HE WAS A BIT STRONGER ON REUNION: "FRENCH ARMED FORCES ARE THERE TO COUNTER DESIRES FOR INDEPENDENCE...AND ARE A THREAT TO US". "WE THEREFORE HELP REUNIONAIS IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE AND WE ALSO HALEP OURSELVES BY SUGGESTING DEPARTURE OF FENCH FORCES." HE ALSO USED THIS OCCASION TO DENOUNCE MERCENARY-DOMINATED REGIME OF COMOROS AND TO ASSERT THAT "NO SOCIALIST COUNTRY COULD EVER BECOME IMPERIALISTIC", REFERRING TO ACCUSATIONS THAT SOCIALIST WORLD MIGHT ALSO HAVE THEIR OWN DESIGNS ON AFRICA. ADDITIONAL REMARKS ON FOREIGN AID ARE REPORTED SEPTEL.BARRETT

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